

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A service-portal enabled automation control module (ACM) of a type, said ACM comprising:

a first central processing unit (CPU) configured for processing automation control signals and configured for receiving telemetry data;

a first memory operably connected to said first CPU;

a second CPU operably connected to said first CPU;

a second memory operably connected to said second CPU for storing a service-portal database containing a first set of service-portal data specific to said ACM and one or more links to a second set of service-portal data relating to the type of said ACM stored in a remote network server; and

a first network interface operably connected to said second CPU and to a gateway configured for enabling said second CPU to communicate with said remote network server.

2. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, further comprising:

a backplane interface operably connected to said first CPU;

an ACM backplane operably connected to said backplane interface; and

an interface module operably connected to said ACM backplane.

3. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, wherein said first memory stores a configuration file containing specific information on said service-portal enabled ACM.

4. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, wherein said second CPU is configured for functioning as a network server.

5. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, wherein said first network interface supports one or more low-level protocols including TCP/IP protocol.

6. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, wherein said gateway is configured for enabling said second CPU to communicate with said remote network server via Internet.
7. (Withdrawn) The service-portal ACM of Claim 1, further comprising:
a third CPU operably connected to said gateway and configured for communicating with said second CPU and said remote network server via said gateway;
a third memory operably connected to said third CPU and configured for loading at least one Web browser to open Web pages stored in said second memory; and
a user interface operably connected to said third CPU and configured for enabling a user to request said first set of service-portal data from said second memory and said second set of service-portal data from said remote network server.
8. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, further comprising a user interface operably connected to said second CPU and configured for enabling a user to request said first set of service-portal data from said second memory and said second set of service-portal data from said remote network server.
9. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 8, wherein said second memory is configured for loading at least one Web browser to open Web pages stored in said second memory.
10. (Currently Amended) The service-portal enabled ACM of Claim 1, further comprising:
a third CPU operably connected to said gateway and configured for communicating with said second CPU and said remote network server via said gateway; and
a third memory operably connected to said third CPU and configured for loading at least one Web browser to open Web pages stored in said second memory.
11. (Withdrawn) A method for displaying service-portal data relevant to a user's ACM in a Web browser, comprising the steps of:
opening said Web browser in a computer;

requesting service-portal data relevant to a user's ACM;
determining whether said requested service-portal data is stored in a service-portal database stored in a memory operably connected to said computer;
retrieving said requested service-portal data from said service-portal database; and
displaying said requested service-portal data on said Web browser.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for displaying service-portal data relevant to a user's ACM in a Web browser, comprising the steps of:

opening said Web browser in a computer;
requesting service-portal data relevant to a user's ACM;
determining whether said requested service-portal data is stored in a service-portal database stored in a memory operably connected to said computer;
retrieving at least one link to said requested service-portal data from said service-portal database;
retrieving said requested service-portal data from an ACM-manufacturer network server;
and
displaying said requested service-portal data on said Web browser.